

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A spring-loaded assembly for coupling a connector to a computer component comprising:

an assembly housing operable to receive a portion of a screw used to couple the connector to a chassis of an information handling system, a threaded portion of the screw extending along a first axis; such that the assembly housing is located in a first plane and the connector is located in a second plane the first plane offset from and generally parallel to the second plane;

a sliding block ~~disposed within~~ housed by the assembly housing and operably engaged with the screw, the sliding block operable to linearly translate the connector between a first position and a second position along a second axis generally perpendicular to the first axis within the second plane; and

a spring placed between the sliding block and at least one wall of the assembly housing, the spring being compressible along the second axis disposed within the first plane and operable to provide an axial force to bias the connector along the second axis towards the first position, whereby coupling the connector to the computer component causes the connector to move along the second axis to a connected position intermediate the first position and the second position.

2. **(Original)** The spring-loaded assembly of Claim 1, further comprising an extension member coupled to and extending from the block, the extension member operable to guide the movement of the spring.

3. **(Original)** The spring-loaded assembly of Claim 2, further comprising an end stop coupled to the assembly wall adjacent the spring, the end stop operable to interact with the extension member to fix the position of the second position.

4. (Previously Presented) The spring-loaded assembly of Claim 1, wherein the assembly housing is formed on a portion of the chassis of an information handling system.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The spring-loaded assembly of Claim 1, wherein the connector is a modified SATA connector.

7. (Original) The spring-loaded assembly of Claim 1, wherein the axial force comprises a connector insertion force.

8. (Currently Amended) An information handling system comprising:

a processor;

a memory communicatively coupled to the processor;

a connector communicatively coupled to the processor, the connector operable to provide communications between the processor and a computer component;

the connector having electrical contacts, the electrical contacts operable to couple to mated electrical contacts of the computer component; and

~~a spring-loaded assembly housing associated with the connector such that the spring-loaded assembly housing is located in a first plane and the connector is located in a second plane the first plane offset from and generally parallel to the second plane, the spring-loaded assembly operable to move facilitate connection of the connector along an axial direction to couple with and the computer component;~~

the spring-loaded assembly including:

an assembly housing operable to receive a portion of a screw used to couple the connector to a chassis of ~~an~~ the information handling system, the screw extending along a first axis;

a sliding block disposed in the assembly housing and operably engaged with the screw, the sliding block operable to linearly translate the connector along a second axis generally perpendicular to the first axis, such that connection of the computer component and the connector causes the connector to translate along the second axis to a connected position between a first position and a second position ~~of the connector within the second plane~~; and

a spring placed within the first plane between the sliding block and at least one wall of the assembly housing, the spring being compressible along the second axis and operably providing provides an axial force to bias the connector along the second axis towards the to a first position, whereby coupling the connector to the computer component causes the connector to move to a connected position intermediate the first and second position.

9. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the computer component is a hard disk drive.

10. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the connector is a Serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA) connector.

11. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the connected position varies based on variations in manufacturing tolerances of the computer component.

12. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the spring-loaded assembly further comprises a guide pin operable to align the electrical contacts of the connector with the mated electrical contacts of the computer component.

13-18. (Cancelled)

19. **(Currently Amended)** A method of connecting a computer component to an information handling system, comprising:

attaching an assembly housing of a connector to a portion of an information handling system, the connector associated with a spring-loaded assembly having a first position and a second position such that the connector is biased to toward the first position, the assembly housing operable to receive a portion of a screw connecting the connector thereto, the screw extending along a first axis such that the assembly housing is located in a first plane and the connector is located in a second plane, where the first position and the second position are located within the second plane, wherein the assembly housing comprises houses a spring and a sliding block aligned along a second axis generally perpendicular with the first axis located within the first plane;

attaching the computer component to a mounting position with the information handling system such that the computer component forms a connection with the connector, the computer component operable to be in electrical communication with the information handling system via the connector; and

based on the mounting position of the computer component, automatically moving the connector in an axial direction automatically moving along the second axis to a connected position that is intermediate between the first position and the second position, the movement of the connector moving the sliding block along the second axis and causing the spring to compress along the second axis.

20. **Cancelled.**

21. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 19, wherein the connection is a blind plug-in connection.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 19, further comprising the spring maintaining an axial force between the connector and the computer component along the second axis to prevent uncoupling due to shock or impact.

23. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 19, wherein attaching the computer component such that the computer component forms a connection with the connector automatically moving the connector further comprises aligning a guide pin on the connector with the computer component connector.

24. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 19, ~~further comprising determining wherein the~~ distance between the first position and the second position is based on at least one manufacturing tolerance of the computer component.